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ABSTRACT

This report provides eleven tables containing dropout statistics for Albuquerque, New Mexico Public Schools for the 1985-86 school year. Data for the district and for individual schools are included. The table break down total statistics into categories such as ethnicity, gender, and grade level. Major findings were the following: (1) the district dropout rate for 1985-86 was 5.67%; (2) the highest dropout rate among ethnic groups occurred for those classified as "other," which includes Oriental, North African, and East Indian students (7.75%), while the lowest occurred for black students (4.56%); (3) dropout rates for Grades 9 through 12 were 2.60%, 5.98%, 7.36%, and 7.18%, respectively; (4) males dropped out of district high schools at a rate of 5.51%; and (5) a total of 78% of all high school students who dropped out within the district left due to either a lack of motivation or interest or else failed to re-enroll at the beginning of the school year. (KH)

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DISTRICT REPORT

1985-86 HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS

SEPTEMBER, 1986

ALBUQUERQUE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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September, 1986

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DISTRICT REPORT

1985-86 HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS

ADMINISTRATIVE SUMMARY

Albuquerque Public Schools dropout figures for the 1985-86 school year were supplied to the Planning, Research, and Accountability Department by the Data Services Department. These figures were based on records kept at each diploma-granting high school within the district, and were reviewed by each school to verify their accuracy.

An analysis of these figures is summarized as follows:

- The district dropout rate for 1985-86 was 5.67%;
- The highest dropout rate among ethnic groups occurred for those classified as other, which includes Oriental, North African, and East Indian students (7.75%), while the lowest occurred for Black students (4.56%);
- Dropout rates for 9th through 12th grade were 2.60%, 5.98%, 7.36%, and 7.18%, respectively;
- Males dropped out of district high schools at a rate of 5.83%, while females dropped out at a rate of 5.51%;
- A total of 78% of all high school students who dropped out within the district left due to either a lack of motivation or interest (524 students), or else failed to re-enroll at the beginning of the school year (522 students).

DISTRICT REPORT

1985-86 HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS

INTRODUCTION

At the end of each school year the New Mexico State Department of Education requires that each diploma-granting high school in the state complete and submit a High School Dropout Report. This report is to include figures on all students who dropped out of high school within the period following the last day of the 1984-85 school year up to and including the last day of the 1985-86 school year. The following information is requested by the State Department of Education:

1. The number of high school dropouts at each grade level, categorized by gender, ethnicity, and reason for dropping out.

2. The 180 day membership at each grade level, categorized by gender and ethnicity.

The State Department of Education provides the following definition of a dropout:

> "A dropout is any student who leaves or is disenrolled from a school without attaining a diploma for any reason except transferring to another educational institution, attendance in a vocational training program, or death."

During the 1985-86 school year, each high school within the Albuquerque Public Schools (APS) maintained records on student withdrawals and submitted these records to the Data Services Department. At the end of the school year the Data Services Department provided the APS Planning, Research, and Accountability Department (PRA) with dropout data which were cross-checked with individual school records. The figures were then compiled by PRA and a final report was submitted to the State Department of Education.

This district report summarizes high school dropout data for the Albuquerque Public Schools and for each of the fourteen high schools. In addition, it provides dropout statistics by ethnicity, grade level, gender, and reason for dropping out.

Table I presents district and individual high school raw figures for end-of-the-year enrollment and number of dropouts. It also provides dropout rates based on these figures using the formula described below.

T A B L E I

DROPOUT RATE SUMMARY

DISTRICT AND INDIVIDUAL HIGH SCHOOLS

Location	Enrollment (180 Day Mem.)	Total Number of Dropouts	Dropout Rate *
District	22512	1354	5.67%
Albuquerque High School	1434	43	2.91%
Cibola High School	1919	34	1.74%
Del Norte High School	2197	103	4.48%
Eldorado High School	2860	124	4.16%
Highland High School	2318	301	11.49%
Manzano High School	2672	101	3.64%
Rio Grande High School	1885	106	5.32%
Sandia High School	2285	76	3.22%
Valley High School	1651	58	3.39%
West Mesa High School	2039	65	3.09%
Evening High School	741	97	11.58%
Freedom High School	213	85	28.52%
New Futures High School	150	121	44.65% **
School on Wheels	148	40	21.28%

* The dropout rate is calculated according to the same formula that is used by the New Mexico State Department of Education. Dropout rate = total number of dropouts divided by 180 day membership + number of dropouts.

** The figure for New Futures is misleading. The actual number of students served by New Futures during the 1985-86 school year was 455, rather than the 150 students as reflected by the 180 day membership. In addition, 45% of the 455 students served were previous dropouts from other educational institutions. Due to the specialized nature of the New Futures program and their policy of not suspending students, the state-required method of computing dropouts is inappropriate in this case. On a student-by-student basis, 73.41% of the students who began a course of study with New Futures completed it, for a dropout rate of 26.59%.

Evening High School, Freedom High School, New Futures High School (see note), and School on Wheels produced the highest dropout rates among APS high schools. These schools are alternative programs with student populations identified as having a high risk of dropping out.

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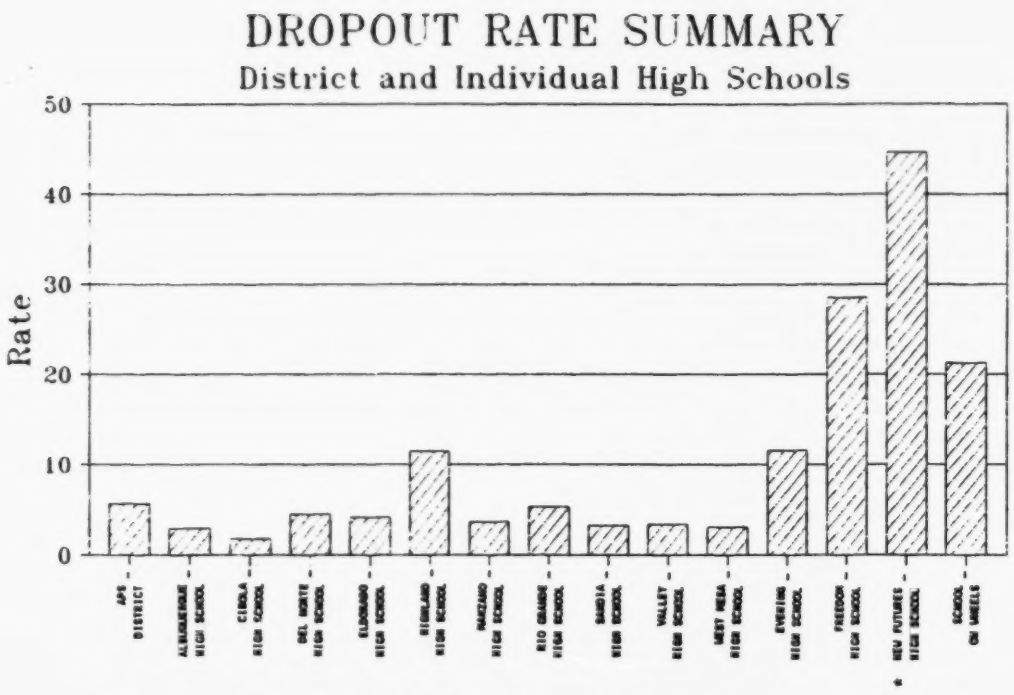
Table II is a graphic presentation of the dropout rate delineated in Table I.

T A B L E II



* See note below Table I (page 3) regarding New Futures.

Presented above are dropout rates for the entire APS district, the ten regular high schools, and the four alternative schools. The district dropout rate was 5.67% for the 1985-86 school year. Of the regular high schools, only Highland, with a rate of 11.49%, fell above the district rate. All of the alternative high schools produced rates greater than the district figure.

Table III presents district and individual high school raw figures for end-of-the-year enrollment and number of dropouts categorized by ethnicity. It also provides dropout rates categorized by ethnicity.

T A B L E III

NUMBERS AND PERCENTAGES OF DROPOUTS
DISTRICT AND INDIVIDUAL HIGH SCHOOLS

CATEGORIZED BY ETHNICITY

	Anglo			Hispanic			Native American			Black			Other		
Location	Number of Dropouts	180 Day Mem.	Dropout Rate *	Number of Dropouts	180 Day Mem.	Dropout Rate *	Number of Dropouts	180 Day Mem.	Dropout Rate *	Number of Dropouts	180 Day Mem.	Dropout Rate *	Number of Dropouts	180 Day Mem.	Dropout Rate *
District	687	12621	5.16%	576	8283	6.50%	30	593	4.82%	32	670	4.56%	29	345	7.75%
Albuquerque High School	6	353	1.67%	32	864	3.57%	1	57	1.72%	3	118	2.48%	1	42	2.33%
Cibola High School	18	1403	1.27%	13	435	2.90%	1	43	2.27%	1	25	3.85%	1	13	7.14%
Del Norte High School	64	1426	4.30%	33	647	4.85%	3	45	6.25%	2	62	3.12%	1	17	5.56%
Eldorado High School	109	2450	4.26%	11	311	3.42%	0	23	0.00%	1	44	2.22%	3	32	8.57%
Highland High School	187	1510	11.02%	84	518	13.95%	3	79	3.66%	8	113	6.61%	19	98	16.24%
Manzano High School	65	1834	3.42%	30	618	4.63%	2	69	2.82%	2	90	2.17%	2	61	3.17%
Rio Grande High School	22	452	4.64%	77	1288	5.64%	3	95	3.06%	4	45	8.16%	0	5	0.00%
Sandia High School	54	1815	2.89%	19	345	5.22%	2	33	5.71%	1	45	2.17%	0	47	0.00%
Valley High School	17	490	3.35%	41	1093	3.62%	0	35	0.00%	0	26	0.00%	0	7	0.00%
West Mesa High School	11	499	2.16%	49	1397	3.39%	5	66	7.04%	0	68	0.00%	0	9	0.00%
Evening High School	40	191	17.32%	51	493	9.38%	2	27	6.90%	3	20	13.04%	1	10	9.09%
Freedom High School	51	132	27.87%	26	68	29.17%	4	9	30.77%	1	1	50.00%	1	3	25.00%
New Futures High School	40	48	45.45% **	73	84	46.50% **	4	10	28.57% **	4	7	36.36% **	0	1	0.00% **
School on Wheels	3	18	14.29%	35	122	22.29%	0	2	0.00%	2	6	25.00%	0	0	0.00%

* The dropout rate is calculated according to the same formula that is used by the New Mexico State Department of Education. Dropout rate = total number of dropouts divided by 180 day membership + number of dropouts.

** The figure for New Futures is misleading. The actual number of students served by New Futures during the 1985-86 school year was 455, rather than the 150 students as reflected by the 180 day membership. In addition, 45% of the 455 students served were previous dropouts from other educational institutions. Due to the specialized nature of the New Futures program and their policy of not suspending students, the state-required method of computing dropouts is inappropriate in this case. On a student-by-student basis, 73.41% of the students who began a course of study with New Futures completed it, for a dropout rate of 26.59%.

KEY: Anglo - any group or individual of European heritage other than Spanish. This includes British, Irish, Scandinavian, Germanic, French, Italian, Slavic, etc., groups.
Hispanic - any group or individual of Hispanic heritage. This includes South American, Central American, Spanish, Puerto Rican, and/or Cuban groups.
Native American - any group or individual of American Indian heritage. This includes Navajo, Apache, or one of the Pueblo groups.
Black - any group or individual of Negroid heritage.
Others - this includes Oriental, North African, East Indian, Arab, etc., designations.

No consistent pattern of dropouts among different ethnic groups across individual high schools is evident from these figures.

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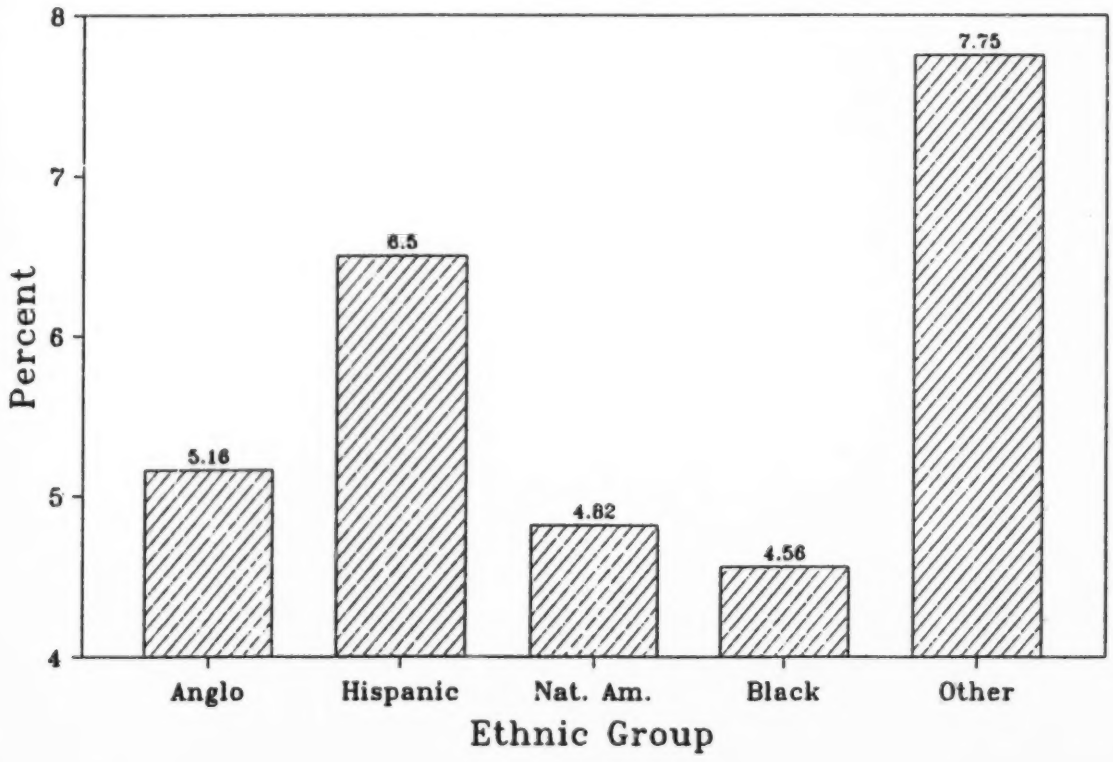
Table IV is a graphic presentation of the dropout rates for the entire district, categorized by ethnicity.

T A B L E IV

DROPOUT RATE SUMMARY

Categorized by Ethnicity



The highest dropout rate for the 1985-86 school year for APS students occurred among those students categorized ethnically as other (7.75%), followed by Hispanic (6.5%), Anglo (5.16%), and Native American (4.82%). Black Students produced the lowest dropout rate (4.56%).

Table V presents district and individual high school raw figures for end-of-the-year enrollment and number of dropouts categorized by grade level. It also provides dropout rates categorized by grade level.

T A B L E V

DROPOUT RATES

DISTRICT AND INDIVIDUAL HIGH SCHOOLS

CATEGORIZED BY GRADE LEVEL

Location	9th Grade			10th Grade			11th Grade			12th Grade		
	Number of Dropouts	180 Day Mem.	Dropout Rate *	Number of Dropouts	180 Day Mem.	Dropout Rate *	Number of Dropouts	180 Day Mem.	Dropout Rate *	Number of Dropouts	180 Day Mem.	Dropout Rate *
District	167	6246	2.60%	381	5985	5.98%	411	5177	7.36%	395	5104	7.18%
Albuquerque High School	18	426	4.05%	9	406	2.17%	11	308	3.45%	5	294	1.67%
Cibola High School	3	572	0.52%	13	503	2.52%	8	435	1.81%	10	409	2.39%
Del Norte High School	10	564	1.74%	38	583	6.12%	34	555	5.77%	21	4..	4.07%
Eldorado High School	24	744	3.13%	27	777	3.36%	34	685	4.73%	39	654	5.63%
Highland High Schol	24	735	3.16%	106	653	13.97%	102	505	16.80%	69	425	13.97%
Manzano High School	3	833	0.36%	17	687	2.41%	42	628	6.27%	39	524	6.93%
Rio Grande High School	5	651	0.76%	38	482	7.31%	34	374	8.33%	29	378	7.13%
Sandia High School	4	540	0.74%	28	611	4.38%	16	608	2.56%	28	526	5.05%
Valley High School	11	476	2.26%	14	448	3.03%	23	377	5.75%	10	350	2.78%
West Mesa High School	14	671	2.04%	19	577	3.19%	22	402	5.19%	10	389	2.51%
Evening High School	1	0	100.00%	27	105	20.45%	15	159	8.67%	54	478	10.15%
Freedom High School	0	0	0.00%	9	37	19.57%	18	79	18.56%	58	97	37.42%
New Futures High School	49	34	59.04% **	34	36	48.57% **	24	32	42.86% **	14	48	22.58% **
School on Wheels	1	0	100.00%	2	80	2.44%	28	31	47.46%	9	37	19.57%

* The dropout rate is calculated according to the same formula that is used by the New Mexico State Department of Education. Dropout rate = total number of dropouts divided by 180 day membership + number of dropouts.

** The figure for New Futures is misleading. The actual number of students served by New Futures during the 1985-86 school year was 455, rather than the 150 students as reflected by the 180 day membership. In addition, 45% of the 455 students served were previous dropouts from other educational institutions. Due to the specialized nature of the New Futures program and their policy of not suspending students, the state-required method of computing dropouts is inappropriate in this case. On a student-by-student basis, 73.41% of the students who began a course of study with New Futures completed it, for a dropout rate of 26.59%.

Ninth graders produced the lowest dropout rates in 10 of the 14 high schools, while tenth graders produced the next to highest dropout rates in 8 of the 14 high schools. No consistent ranking pattern exists for eleventh or twelfth grade across schools, except that in no instance did eleventh graders produce the lowest dropout rate.

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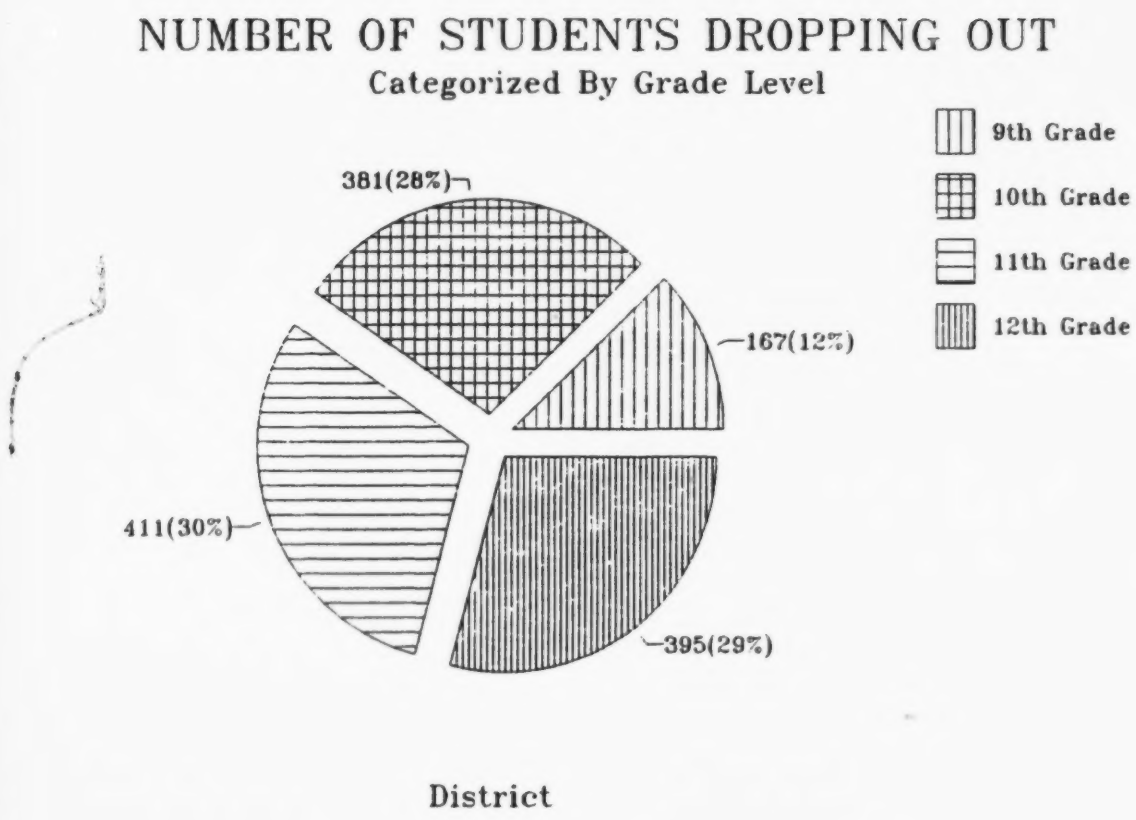
Table VI is a graphic presentation of the number of dropouts for the entire district, categorized by grade level.

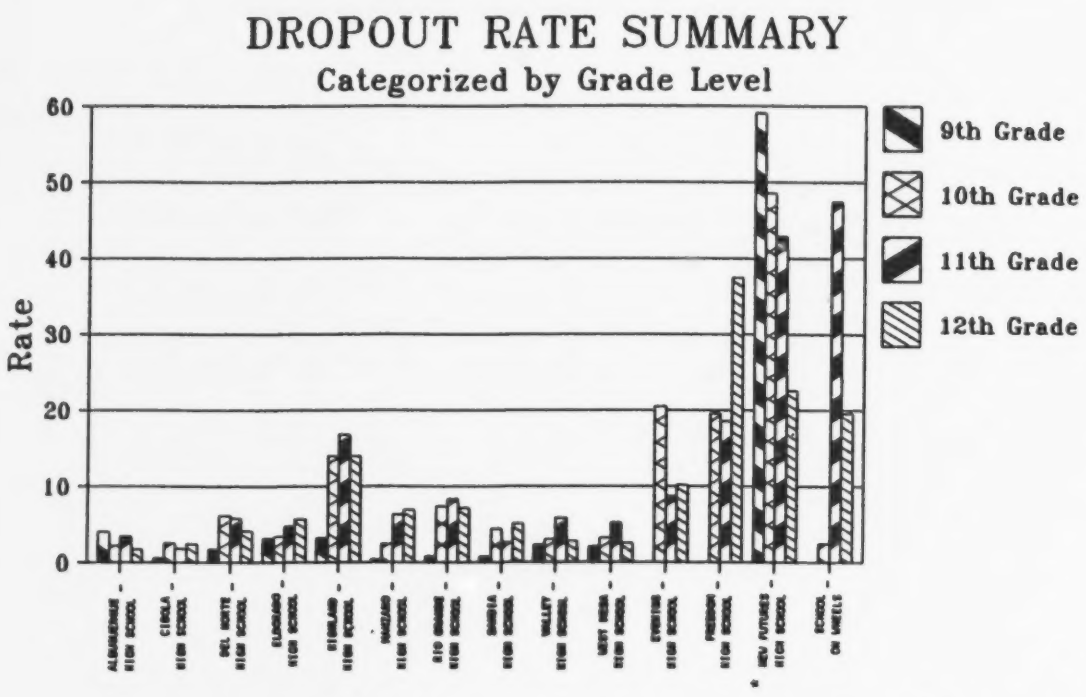
T A B L E VI



Both in terms of the number of students dropping out and the dropout rates for the entire district, the eleventh grade produced the highest figures, followed by twelfth grade, tenth grade, and ninth grade.

Table VII is a graphic presentation of the dropout rates for individual high schools, categorized by grade level.

T A B L E VII



* See note below Table V (page 7) regarding New Futures.

Both Evening High School and School on Wheels had only one ninth grade student enrolled during the course of the year. In both cases, the student dropped out, producing a ninth grade dropout rate of 100%. These cases are not included in the graph. Otherwise, with the exceptions of Albuquerque High School and New Futures High School, ninth grade rates were consistently lower than the rates for the other three grades.

Table VIII presents district and individual high school raw figures for end-of-the-year enrollment and number of dropouts categorized by gender. It also provides dropout rates categorized by gender.

T A B L E VIII

DROPOUT RATES

DISTRICT AND INDIVIDUAL HIGH SCHOOLS

CATEGORIZED BY GENDER

Location	MALE			FEMALE		
	Number of Dropouts	180 Day Mem.	Dropout Rate *	Number of Dropouts	180 Day Mem.	Dropout Rate *
District	716	11573	5.83%	638	10939	5.51%
Albuquerque High School	26	717	3.50%	17	717	2.32%
Cibola High School	17	996	1.68%	17	923	1.81%
Del Norte High School	57	1158	4.69%	46	1039	4.24%
Eldorado High School	71	1463	4.63%	53	1397	3.66%
Highland High School	168	1162	12.63%	133	1156	10.32%
Manzano High School	72	1369	5.00%	29	1303	2.18%
Rio Grande High School	67	977	6.42%	39	908	4.12%
Sandia High School	48	1184	3.90%	28	1101	2.48%
Valley High School	29	865	3.24%	29	786	3.56%
West Mesa High School	32	1037	2.99%	33	1002	3.19%
Evening High School	58	446	11.51%	39	296	11.68%
Freedom High School	50	111	31.06%	35	102	25.55%
New Futures High School	3	0	100.00% **	118	150	44.03% ***
School on Wheels	18	88	16.98%	22	60	26.83%

* The dropout rate is calculated according to the same formula that is used by the New Mexico State Department of Education. Dropout Rate = total number of dropouts divided by 180 day membership + number of dropouts.

** There were three males enrolled in the New Futures program at various times during the school year, and all subsequently dropped out.

*** The figure for New Futures is misleading. The actual number of students served by New Futures during the 1985-86 school year was 456, rather than the 150 students as reflected by the 180 day membership. In addition, 45% of the 455 students served were previous dropouts from other educational institutions. Due to the specialized nature of the New Futures program and their policy of not suspending students, the state-required method of computing dropouts is inappropriate in this case. On a student-by-student basis, 73.41% of the students who began a course of study with New Futures completed it, for a dropout rate of 26.59%.

These figures are summarized below table IX.

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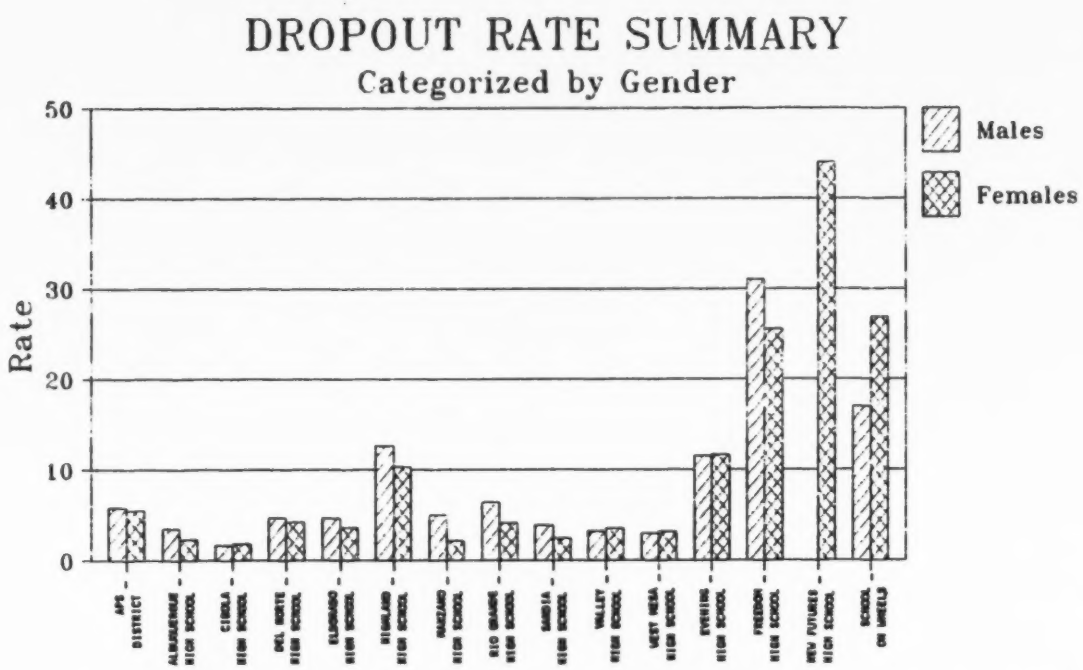
Table IX is a graphic presentation of the dropout rates for the district and individual high schools, categorized by gender.

T A B L E IX



* See note below Table VIII (page 10) regarding New Futures.

In eight of fourteen schools the dropout rate was higher among males than among females. The exceptions are Cibola, Valley, West Mesa, Evening School, School on Wheels, and New Futures (male dropout rate not shown on graph). In the case of New Futures, there were three males enrolled in the program at various times during the school year, and all subsequently dropped out. Regarding district figures there were 716 male dropouts as opposed to 638 female dropouts during the 1985-86 school year.

Table X presents district and individual high school raw figures for end-of-the-year enrollment and number of dropouts, categorized by reasons for dropping out. It also provides dropout rates based on these figures, categorized by reason for dropping out.

T A B L E X

NUMBERS AND PERCENTAGES OF DROPOUTS CATEGORIZED BY REASON FOR DROPPING OUT *

Location	Motivational or Interest Related		Discipline		Did Not Re-enroll		Home Related		Pregnancy or Marriage		Other	
	Number of Dropouts	Dropout Percent **	Number of Dropouts	Dropout Percent **	Number of Dropouts	Dropout Percent **	Number of Dropouts	Dropout Percent **	Number of Dropouts	Dropout Percent **	Number of Dropouts	Dropout Percent **
District	524	38.70%	51	3.77%	522	38.55%	39	2.88%	17	1.26%	201	14.84%
Albuquerque High School	11	25.58%	3	6.98%	18	41.86%	10	23.26%	1	2.33%	0	0.00%
Cibola High School	23	67.65%	0	0.00%	5	14.71%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	6	17.65%
Del Norte High School	14	13.59%	0	0.00%	33	32.04%	12	11.65%	0	0.00%	44	42.72%
Eldorado High School	51	41.13%	5	4.03%	15	12.10%	2	1.61%	0	0.00%	51	41.13%
Highland High School	64	21.28%	6	1.99%	204	67.77%	1	0.33%	2	0.67%	24	7.97%
Manzano High School	54	53.47%	5	4.95%	30	29.70%	2	1.98%	0	0.00%	10	9.90%
Rio Grande High School	30	28.30%	1	0.94%	72	67.92%	0	0.00%	1	0.94%	2	1.89%
Sandia High School	33	43.42%	28	36.84%	2	2.63%	4	5.26%	0	0.00%	9	11.84%
Valley High School	32	55.17%	1	1.72%	17	29.31%	0	0.00%	2	3.45%	6	10.34%
West Mesa High School	44	67.69%	0	0.00%	10	15.38%	5	7.69%	0	0.00%	6	9.23%
Evening High School	75	77.32%	1	1.03%	11	11.34%	0	0.00%	5	5.15%	5	5.15%
Frontera High School	48	56.47%	0	0.00%	13	15.29%	2	2.35%	6	7.06%	16	18.82%
New Futures High School	13	10.74% ***	1	0.83% ***	86	71.07% ***	0	0.00% ***	0	0.00% ***	21	17.36% ***
School on Wheels	32	80.00%	0	0.00%	6	15.00%	1	2.50%	0	0.00%	1	2.50%

* Reasons defined and categorized by New Mexico State Department of Education:

Motivational or Interest Related — includes lack of interest, poor achievement, inability to adjust, and similar cases.
Discipline (Expelled or Suspended, Did Not Return) — is self-explanatory.
Did Not Re-enroll — those who did not re-enroll for any educational instruction at the beginning of the year.
Home and Related — covers a wide range of reasons over which the school has, at best, limited control. This would include: employment, parental request, enter military, illness, legal difficulties, runaways.
Pregnancy or Marriage — is self-defined.
Other or Unknown — Students who cannot be contacted for their own explanations should be included here. Also included are students who don't fit into other categories.

** Figures in these colums represent the percentages of the total dropouts at each location falling into each category.

*** The figure for New Futures is misleading. The actual number of students served by New Futures during the 1985-86 school year was 455, rather than the 180 students as reflected by the 180 day membership. In addition, 45% of the 455 students served were previous dropouts from other educational institutions. Due to the specialized nature of the New Futures program and their policy of not suspending students, the state-required method of computing dropouts is inappropriate in this case. On a student-by-student basis, 73.41% of the students who began a course of study with New Futures completed it, for a dropout rate of 26.59%.

Analysis of these figures among individual schools reveals that "Motivational or Interest Related" was the most common reason for dropping out in 9 of the 14 high schools. In 4 of the 14 schools "Home Related" was listed as the least common reason for dropping out.

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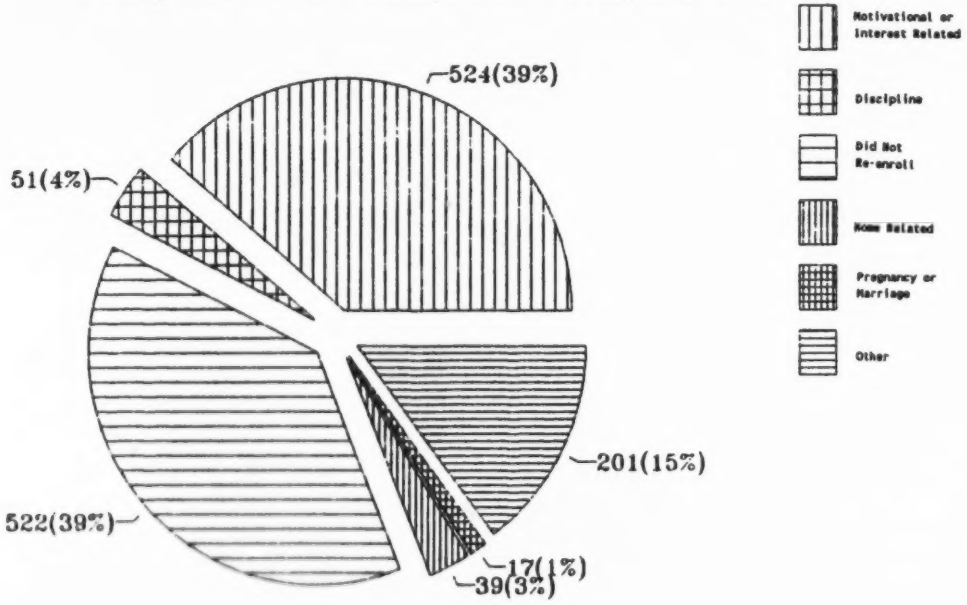
Table XI is a graphic presentation of the number of dropouts for the entire district, categorized by reason for dropping out.

T A B L E XI

NUMBER OF STUDENTS DROPPING OUT

Categorized By Reason For Dropping Out



District

A total of 78% of all high school students who dropped out during the 1985-86 school year left due to either a lack of motivation or interest (524), or else failed to re-enroll at the beginning of the school year (522). The other 22% of the students who left school did so for these reasons: other or unknown (201); discipline (51); home related (39); or pregnancy or marriage (17).

CONCLUSION

- During the 1985-86 school year the 14 diploma-granting high schools within the Albuquerque Public Schools had a dropout rate of 5.67%. Rates for regular high schools ranged from a high of 11.49% to a low of 1.74%. Among the alternative high schools rates ranged from a high of 44.65% (see note below Table I), to a low of 11.57%.

- Among high school students of different grades across the district the dropout rates were as follows: 11th grade - 7.36%; 12th grade - 7.18%; 10th grade - 5.98%; and 9th grade - 2.60%.

- Across the district 716 males and 638 females dropped out during the 1985-86 school year, producing rates of 5.83% and 5.51%, respectively.

- The highest dropout rate among ethnic groups existed among those students classified as "other." This classification includes Oriental, North African, and East Indian groups. During the 1985-86 school year their rate was 7.75%. Rates for the other ethnic groups were as follows: Hispanic - 6.50%; Anglo - 5.16%; Native American - 4.82%; and Black - 4.56%.

- Regarding reasons for leaving school, the largest percentage of students dropped out for motivational or interest related reasons (38.70%). This was followed by: students who did not re-enroll at the beginning of the school year (38.58%); students who left school for unknown reasons (14.84%); students who were suspended (3.77%); students who left for home related reasons (2.88%); and students who left due to either pregnancy or marriage (1.26%).